

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 04576 252343 Z

61

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6638

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 4576

E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, MX

SUBJECT: RAILROAD CARS

1. I RAISED WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA THE PROBLEM WHICH CONTINUED TO PLAGUE US OF THE FAILURE OF MEXICO TO RETURN RAILROAD CARS TO THE US AT THE RATE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE AGAIN THE APPROPRIATE BALANCE. I ALSO STRESSED OUR URGENT NEED FOR ADDITIONAL FREIGHT CARS.
 2. RABASA IMMEDIATELY CALLED DIRECTOR OF RAILROADS GOMEZ ON THE TELEPHONE AND HAD LENGTHY CONVERSATION WITH HIM. THEREAFTER HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT ONE OF TWO PROBLEMS, WHICH WAS CONGESTION IN LAREDO AREA, HAD BEEN TAKEN CARE OF. I CONFIRMED THIS WAS NOT THE ISSUE NOW BUT RATHER TO INCREASE THE RATE OF RETURNS WHICH HAD REMAINED UNSATISFACTORY IN SPITE OF ALL ASSURANCES TO THE CONTRARY. RABASA SAID GOMEZ HAD TOLD HIM THAT MEXICO WAS COMMITTED TO RETURNING THIRTY CARS A DAY MORE THAN ENTERED MEXICO BUT THAT GOMEZ HAD INDICATED HE WOULD PREFER COMMITMENT TO 900 A MONTH AS THIS WOULD GIVE GREATER FLEXIBILITY.
 3. I REPEATED OUR CONCERN ON THIS MATTER AND SAID I FELT INTERESTED PARTIES ON US SIDE HAD BEEN EXTREMELY PATIENT. I PROMISED TO REPORT HIS REMARKS AND EXPRESSED HOPE FOR IMPROVED RATE OF RETURNS, POINTING OUT THAT ON MANY DAYS ENTRIES WERE STILL SURPASSING RETURNS.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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